1: Jochelson E-5 (1900-01) 1908 RY4 Koryak RY4

enemies, they settled down in one place. At the same time, however, they refrained from forming ties of kinship with the Kamchadal, thus preserving their language and customs intact. Now they have become Russianized, like the Kamchadal, and in no way differ from them. "Koryaki,"[1] the name of their settlement, is the sole reminder of their origin.

At the present time the camps of the Reindeer Koryak reach as far south along the western slope of the Kamchatka Ridge as the fifty-fifth degree of north latitude:[1] and, according to Slunin, a few families will sometimes even reach Bolsheretzk.[2] The Reindeer Koryak have also spread farther northward than at the time of the intertribal wars. Then, according to tradition, the southern Chukchee camps were separated from the northern Koryak camps by a stretch of desert land, which the Chukchee would cross from time to time to attack the Koryak. Now the Chukchee and Koryak camps wander peacefully together upon the table-land of the Palpal.

I am inclined to suppose that no changes have occurred in the distribution of the Koryak in the northeastern region. The northeastern branch of the Koryak, the Kerek, have held themselves aloof from Russian influence, and until recently have been very little known.

The western boundary-line of the Koryak territory is formed, now as formerly, by the Stanovoi, or, as Maydell calls it, the Kolyma Ridge. But in winter, for purposes of squirrel-hunting, a few camps wander across the Stanovoi Ridge into the region of the Kolyma River, as far as its tributaries Omolon and Korkodon, and return in the spring. According to traditions of the Korkodon Yukaghir, the Koryak in olden times crossed the Stanovoi Ridge to wage war against them.

At the present time the Koryak territory is situated mainly in the two districts of Gishiga and Petropavlovsk. The Gishiga district has an area of 81,553 square miles, and that of Petropavlovsk 149,467 square miles. According to official data, there are in the Gishiga district 0.9 inhabitants to a square mile, and in that of Petropavlovsk 0.45 inhabitants to a square mile. The population is, of course, concentrated near the mouths of the rivers, in the river-valleys, and in places where reindeer-food is abundant. Between these inhabited places are large stretches of uninhabited desert land.

To understand Koryak culture in so far as it depends upon environment, it is necessary to give here a brief description of the nature of that region.

OROGRAPHY. — The Koryak territory may be called a highland rather than a lowland country, but nowhere do the elevations reach any considerable height. They are either spurs of mountain-chains which lie outside of the Koryak country, or are small elevations forming the watersheds within the country. The Stanovoi Ridge sends a few such small spurs eastward, which

[1] See Part I, map.

[2] See Slunin, I, p. 450.

1: Jochelson E-5 (1900-01) 1908 RY4 Koryak RY

842 that twenty-two women of from forty years of age and over had 120 children, — one had 1 child; five had 3 children each; four had 4 each; three had 5 each; two had 6 each; one had 7; three had 8 each; one had 9; one had 10; and one had 11. If we assume that all these women are unable to bear any more children (which evidently cannot be said with certainty), we shall then have an average of 5.5 births of living children to every woman, a considerable coefficient of female fecundity.

Of the total number of women whose measurements were taken, 13 per cent had never borne children. However, a part of these women were the wives of bigamists both wives of whom were infecund, and in such cases the husband may have been the cause of the sterility.

145 805 The accounts given by some travellers, of the extreme age reached by the Koryak, are much exaggerated. We could ascertain the age of the Koryak only approximately, by judging from their appearance, for they themselves do not know their age.

When conversing with old people, we tried to call up some event of their childhood, or of some other period of their life, which had left an impression on their memory. For instance, we tried to ascertain who was the chief of the district at the time of a person's marriage. In most cases the recollection of a Koryak regarding the events in his life is extremely confused.

162 145 In making our records we found, out of 284 men, only 13 whom we judged to be more than fifty-five years of age, and but one very old man, a Reindeer Koryak. He was not less than seventy years old, according to recollections of his children, and he may have been older. He was no longer able to drive reindeer, and was brought to us by one of his grandsons. Old women are met with even less frequently than old men.

161 On the basis of the above data, it is difficult to give a definite answer to the question whether the tribe is increasing in numbers or not. I shall touch upon this point in Chapter III; but, speaking generally, the Koryak population at present is increasing in the intervals between epidemics and famines. Epidemics especially carry off the increase of many years. Some Koryak settlements, those which have been or are at present subjected to the process of Russianization, are perceptibly decreasing in numbers.

[164] There is no reason to suppose that the Reindeer Koryak — perhaps with a few exceptions — are decreasing in numbers. They come less in contact with the Russians and with civilization in general than do the Maritime Koryak; they are better provided with means of subsistence, and have therefore preserved to a greater degree their primitive energy, so indispensable in a struggle with the adverse conditions of arctic life. There is no doubt that the Koryak were not very numerous in the past. That which is now accomplished by diseases imported by the Russians was effected in olden times by wars and famines.

1: Jochelson E-5 (1900-01) 1908 RY4 Koryak RY 4

2-4. The first Koryak settlements on the western shore of Penshina Bay are found on Cape Itkana, where there are three settlements, — Little Itkana (Neni'yigičun), Middle Itkana (Osgi'nčo), and Big Itkana (Itkanu). Little Itkana is situated thirteen miles and a half from Middle Itkana, and the latter thirty miles from Big Itkana. I mention these settlements together, as they constitute officially the single "Itkana Clan" (Итканскій родъ). Besides, families often move from one settlement to another. During my winter sojourn there, all the inhabitants of Middle Itkana moved over to their relatives in Big Itkana. Three families who lived permanently in Middle Itkana were afraid, after the epidemic of measles in 1900, to stay at the settlement in such small numbers.

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According to statistics of 1886, the three settlements consisted of eighteen families, or 157 persons (63 men, 94 women); according to Patkanov (1897), there were 155 persons (65 men, 90 women); while, according to my own figures (1901), there were fifteen families, or 117 persons (59 men, 58 women). Besides these 117 Itkana people, there lived among them, in the winter of 1901, 11 Koryak from Paren. In 1900, they lost 32 persons (7 men, 25 women) from measles. Of the above total figure of 1901, 93 persons lived in Big Itkana, and 35 in Little Itkana. If the enumeration of 1886 and of the census are correct, then the people of Itkana are decreasing in number but I should state here that the Itkana people, from their size, constitution, and appearance, gave me the impression of being physically the best representatives among the Koryak that I saw.

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5-8. Four settlements — Paren (Po'itn), Kuel, Khaimchiki, and Tılgovo — form one group of Maritime Koryak, known under the name of "Paren people" (Парены). Officially they form at present three clans, — First, Second, and Third Paren Clans (Первый, Второй, и Третій Пареньскій родъ). In the 1897 census they were divided into two clans, — First and Second;[1] but in 1900 I found among them three elders (two in Kuel and one in Paren) who collected tribute.

Of the above four settlements, Paren and Tılqovo are winter settlements; Khaimchiki, a summer settlement; and Kuel, a permanent village.

Paren (Po'itn), the larger winter settlement, is situated on the bank of the Paren River (Po'itu-ve'yem), about thirteen miles from its mouth. In summer most of the inhabitants live near the mouth of the river, in the summer settlement Khaimchiki; but a part of them stay in Kuel.

Kuel, near the mouth of a small river of the same name, is situated on the seashore, about ten miles north of Paren.

Tılqovo had in 1900-01 one house, where a family from Kuel lived during the winter. Some winters there are two houses here. It is on the Tılqai River, a little over fourteen miles from the sea.

[1] According to Patkanov's written information.

1: Jochelson E-5 (1900-01) 1908 RY4 Koryak RY4

162 explained by the fact that the life of a Reindeer Koryak woman is much harder than that of her Maritime sister. The hard work incident upon their wandering and the pitching of tents, which duty devolves upon the women, and the constant struggle with cold and inclement weather, are unknown in the life of the Maritime Koryak women.

161 Without available correct data as to the numbers of Koryak in earlier times, it is hard to say whether, as a tribe, they are on the increase or not. If we take the figures of 1852 given by Dittmar,[1] — 235 Kamentsi and Paren people,[2] 872 Pallan people, 413 Ookintsi, and 1750 Reindeer Koryak assessed for fur-tribute, making a total of 3270 persons, — we see plainly that they do not represent even half of the present number of Koryak. Dittmar himself estimates the number of Reindeer Koryak not assessed at about 1000. He does not indicate the number of the Alutor people, although he mentions them. Furthermore, he does not even mention the Kerek, the Itkana people, and the Russianized Koryak west of the Gishiga district.

Personally I am inclined to believe that the number of Maritime Koryak is at present smaller than that of the not remote period of 1852. Such a conclusion with reference to some groups may be drawn from the data quoted by me in enumerating clans and settlements. Besides, I saw, between the mouths of the Gishiga and Nayakhan Rivers, traces of old dwellings of a few rather large settlements whose inhabitants had disappeared completely; and I was told that such ruins are found in other places on the shores of Okhotsk and Bering Seas.

As will be seen from the last chapter, the number of Maritime Koryak killed in wars with the Russians was considerable; and since peaceful relations with the Russians have been established, frequent epidemics and famines have deprived the Koryak of a part of their population. The decline is particularly noticeable among the Russianized settlements; for instance, Nayakhan.

The Reindeer Koryak who have not been in such close contact with the Russians have preserved their primitive vigor to a greater degree. Disease may carry off the increase of more favorable years. Of course, we cannot say that the number of Reindeer Koryak is greater at present than it was in preceding periods: but the fact that they are nearly equal in number to the Maritime Koryak indicates that conditions are now more favorable among the former than among the latter, since in olden times, I believe, the Maritime population was greater than that of the Reindeer division.

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1. Die Korjaken, pp. 8, 12, 14, 28.
2. With reference to the subdivision of the Koryak into groups, by Dittmar, see above, p. 429.

17:Antropova E-4 (no date) 1964 RY4 Koryak RY4

the common name of Itkana (Upper, Middle and Lower); 5) Apukintsy, who lived at the mouth of the Apuka River and farther north, along the coast of the Bering Sea; 6) Kereks—a small coastal group, living northeast of the Apukintsy along the coast of the Bering Sea, from Natal'ya Bay in the southwest to Cape Navarin in the northeast; 7) Alyutortsy—the second largest group, inhabiting the large area of the Kamchatka Isthmus, from the village of Tymlaty in the south to the village of Olyutorka (Bering Sea coast) and Rekinniki and Podkagernoye (the coast of the Sea of Okhotsk); 8) Karagintsy—a group close in language to the Alyutortsy, living from the village of Tymlaty in the north to Ukn in the south (on the east coast of the Kamchatka Peninsula); 9) Palantsy—distributed in 5 villages along the coast of the Sea of Okhotsk, from the village of Lesnaya in the north to that of Vayampolka in the south.

The census of 1926-1927 set the number of Koryaks at 7434 persons, of whom some 55% were nomads and some 45% settled.

At present almost all the Koryaks live within the bounds of the Koryak National Okrug of the Kamchatskaya Oblast. Only an insignificant number of Koryaks live outside the okrug—in the Chukchi National Okrug (the Kereks), and in the Bol'sheretskiy and Petropavlovskiy Rayons of the Kamchatskaya Oblast. The Koryak (National) Okrug is divided into 4 rayons: Penzhinskiy, with its center in the village of Kamenskoye (Vaykynan); Olyutorskiy, with its center at the village of Tilichiki (Tylliran); Tigil'skiy, its center at the village of Tigil' (Vuyvyn); and Karaginskiy, its center at the village of Ossora. The center of the okrug is the village of Palana in the Tigil'skiy Rayon.

The Koryak National Okrug of the Kamchatskaya Oblast lies between 56°-65°N and 158°-174°E. The unfavorable average temperatures and the wide expanses of tundra and forest-tundra, despite the relatively southerly position of the okrug, lend a harsh quality to its environment. Nevertheless, the natural conditions of the territory, which extends almost from the Arctic Circle in the north to the latitude of Moscow in the south, are not homogeneous. Their diversity is intensified by the complex mountain relief of the area. The extreme northwestern corner of the okrug—the Upper Omolon Basin—is the highest spot, and most continental in climate. This area belongs to the forest zone, although coniferous forests occupy relatively small areas, while the predominant terrain consists of lichen-grown and other tundras, with scrub thickets in the mountains and river valleys. There are also grassy swamps and meadowlands.

The middle part of the Penzhina River Basin and adjacent areas on the Kamchatka Isthmus are characterized by a predominance of hills and low plains. The continental character of the climate lessens as one approaches the Sea of Okhotsk. Despite its more southerly position, this entire territory belongs to the forest-tundra zone. It has no coniferous forests, but abounds in scrub thickets, mountainside tundras and rocky areas in the mountains. There are even more mountain tundras in the east of the okrug—among the Koryak uplands and in the northeastern part of the Kamchatka Isthmus.

The rest of the territory of the okrug embraces the swampy unforested coastal lowlands of the northwestern part of the Kamchatka Peninsula and the western slope of the middle part of the Middle Kamchatka Range. Stone-birch groves, thickets of cedar and alder, and dry moss and other tundras extend over the mountainsides and mountaintops; in the river valleys in the mountains and foothills, vegetation consists of tall deciduous forests (poplar, alder, willow, Korean cedar, and, farther south, birch) and meadows. In this part of the okrug, which lies in the temperate zone, the climate is moist and

22:Barrett-Hamilton and Jones--285 N-2 (1897) 1898 Koryak
116, 161, 342, 361, 439

"The little village of Karaga consists of seventeen straggling balagans, (1) six yurts,

1. A balagan is a wooden hut raised on piles to a height of about 10 feet from the ground.

(2) or mud huts, and one small tent, plainly labelled with the name and address of a firm

2. A yurt is a wooden hut covered over with sods and grass.

of San Francisco merchants, the tent having been apparently constructed of flour-bags sewn together. The total number of inhabitants can hardly exceed thirty, even supposing that each yurt may be regarded as the residence of a separate family of five individuals such as is shown in our photograph, p. 287."

22:Barrett-Hamilton and Jones--294 N-2 (1897) 1898 Koryak-1-2
116, 142, 161, 302, 361

"As we landed near one of the balagans, a party of eight or ten of the inhabitants of the island [Karaginski--Analyst] came down to the beach to meet us, and formed about as strange looking a company of human beings as it would be possible to imagine. Dark-haired and dark-eyed, of more than average height, with intelligent countenances, and blessed with an equal or even greater share of the gift of courtesy than the people of Karaga, it was not only in their manners, but in their dress and houses and implements, that these people showed their quaintness. The whole male population did not appear to exceed a dozen souls, (1) and we saw no women or children near the balagans; in fact, it

1. At Petropavlovsk we were informed that only one family is said to exist in this village, but the presence of two old men makes it seem likely that there are at least two families. One of these old men, whose knowledge of Russian was better than that of his countrymen, was always put forward as interpreter when any difficult topic of conversation came up.

was not until the following day that one of our party, while out shooting, accidentally met one of the former. They evidently had another village somewhere inland, and we were told that there were more people living at the other side of the island. These people had usually no hair on their faces, though one of them at least had a slight growth of whiskers.

22:Barrett-Hamilton and Jones--294 N-2 (1897) 1898 Koryak-2
116, 142, 161, 302, 361

Their straight dark hair was in some cases cut short, and in others allowed to fall downwards on all sides of the head, like a mop, and with a length which was evidently not much short of that allowed to it by nature. One man had a circular portion of his head cropped fairly close, while the rest of his hair was allowed to grow long."

1: Kolarz J-4 (no date) 1954 RR1 Siberia
AINU AB6
TUNGUS RU5
KORYAKS R44

Sakhalin which was entrusted, among other things, with 'raising the cultural and living standard of its native population', the Ainu in particular.[48]

Three years after the establishment of Soviet sovereignty over Karafuto Russian propaganda claimed that 'a revival of the ancient, original culture of the Ainu people' was noticeable, and that an 'Ainu national literary language' was in the process of being created.[49]

THE 'NATIONAL AREAS' OF THE EVENI AND KORYAKS

In 1930 three 'National Areas' were founded in the Far Eastern Territory, one for the Eveni (Lamuts), one for the Koryaks, and one for the Chukchi. The last two are still in existence, but the 'National Area' of the Eveni – Okhotsko-Evensky National Area was the official name – was disbanded after four years. It is doubtful whether the Eveni National Area, which covered 400,000 square miles, ever existed except on paper. The Eveni as a nomad people were not prepared to accept the notion of a territory with stable frontiers and a permanently fixed cultural and political centre. The attempt to erect such a centre, first in Okhotsk, later in Nogayevo, failed.[50] The National Area of the Eveni was formally abolished as a result of the progress which Russian colonization by convicts had made around the Okhotsk Sea in the early 'thirties'. By 1934 the proportion of natives in the population of the National Area had dropped to 40 per cent as against 80 per cent shortly before its foundation.

The Koryak National Area has been able to survive because the Soviet authorities have not yet succeeded in fully exploiting its riches, and have not, up to now, swamped the area with convicts and other settlers. The Koryak National Area covers the northern part of the Kamchatka peninsula, and the adjacent part of the Asiatic mainland. It is 125,000 square miles in area, and had 11,400 inhabitants in 1926. Out of this total, 61 per cent were then Koryaks, 8·9 per cent Chukchi, 7·1 per cent Kamchadals, and 5·5 per cent Eveni. The Russians accounted for 14·3 per cent.

The leading Soviet expert on the arctic and sub-arctic regions of the Soviet Far East, M. A. Sergeev, considers that the Koryak National Area is, politically and economically, one of the most important parts of North East Asia, in view of its close proximity to Japan and the U.S.A. Sergeev, who wrote the only available monograph on the Koryak National Area, pointed out that the Area had a considerable part to play in Russian foreign trade, and that it could develop into a territory earning for the whole Soviet Union an appreciable amount of foreign currency.[51] Among the economic assets of the National Area Sergeev lists its riches in fish, reindeer and fur animals, as well as gold and oil. All these items should be used for export, whereas the chief importance